

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 STATE 186566
ORIGIN AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SCA-01 EUR-12 MMO-04 SIG-02 CIAE-00
DODE-00 PM-05 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05
PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 SY-05 ACDA-10
MC-02 OMB-01 SCS-05 DHA-02 COME-00 TRSE-00 PC-05
AGRE-00 NASA-02 LAB-04 DOTE-00 INT-05 PPTE-00
OPR-02 PER-05 AID-05 /140 R

DRAFTED BY AF/S:KMCCORMICK:DH
APPROVED BY AF-WEDMONDSON
AF/S:DKEOGH
SCA:JDEWITT
L/AF-MMATHESON

-----042854 090416Z /17

R 082137Z AUG 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO ALL AFRICAN DIPLOMATIC POSTS
ALL EUROPEAN DIPLOMATIC POSTS

UNCLAS STATE 186566

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINS, CASC, BC

SUBJECT: TRAVEL WARNING: BOTSWANA

1. AS A RESULT OF CONTINUING PENETRATION OF ITS BORDERS
BY ARMED GROUPS FROM RHODESIA, BOTSWANA HAS TIGHTENED
ITS SECURITY LAWS TO PROVIDE STRICT MINIMUM SENTENCES
FOR PERSONS CONVICTED OF UNAUTHORIZED POSSESSION OF
FIREARMS OR EXPLOSIVES OR THREATENING THE SECURITY OF
BOTSWANA.

2. OVER THE PAST YEAR SEVERAL ALLEGED AMERICAN MERCENARIES
HAVE BEEN ARRESTED IN BOTSWANA AFTER CROSSING THE BORDER
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 STATE 186566

FROM RHODESIA. GIVEN BOTSWANA'S PERCEPTION OF AN ESCAL-
ATING THREAT TO ITS SECURITY FROM RHODESIA, AMERICANS
ARRESTED AS SUSPECTED MERCENARIES OR ARMS TRAFFICKERS,
OR IN THE COMPANY OF SUSPECTED MERCENARIES OR ARMS
TRAFFICKERS, CAN NO LONGER EXPECT TO RECEIVE LIGHT FINES
OR SHORT SENTENCES IF CONVICTED.

3. BOTSWANA AUTHORITIES HAVE ASSURED OUR EMBASSY THAT THE NEW PROVISIONS ARE AIMED AT THE ILLEGAL IMPORTATION OF AUTOMATIC, COMBAT-STYLE WEAPONS AND SHOULD NOT AFFECT TOURISTS ON BONA FIDE HUNTING TRIPS WHO LEGALLY IMPORT

SPORTING ARMS.

4. POSTS ARE REQUESTED TO ALERT VISITORS TO BOTSWANA OR NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES OF THE CHANGES IN BOTSWANA'S SECURITY LAWS. THE FOLLOWING TRAVEL WARNING MAY BE USED.

5. QUOTE: THE GOVERNMENT OF BOTSWANA HAS AMENDED ITS SECURITY LAWS TO PROVIDE MANDATORY MINIMUM SENTENCES FOR TREASON AND THE ILLEGAL IMPORTATION OF FIREARMS. TREASONABLE OFFENSES NOW INCLUDE: THE UNAUTHORIZED WEARING OF THE UNIFORM OF A FOREIGN ARMY AND THE UNAUTHORIZED POSSESSION OF ARMS, AMMUNITION AND EXPLOSIVES. WHILE THE DEATH SENTENCE MAY BE IMPOSED FOR TREASON, THE MINIMUM SENTENCE IS 15 YEARS IMPRISONMENT. A PERSON CONVICTED FOR ILLEGAL IMPORTATION OF ARMS WILL BE SUBJECT TO A MINIMUM SENTENCE OF FIVE YEARS. THIS LAW SHOULD NOT AFFECT TRAVELERS FOLLOWING NORMAL STANDARDS OF CONDUCT FOR TOURISM OR BUSINESS. UNQUOTE. CHRISTOPHER

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TRAVEL CONTROLS, BORDER CONTROLS, ARMS SMUGGLING
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 08-Aug-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977STATE186566
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: KMCCORMICK:DH
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770285-0849
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770884/aaaactkt.tel
Line Count: 85
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 1c0fdd5f-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN AF
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 21-Oct-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1671637
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: TRAVEL WARNING: BOTSWANA
TAGS: PINS, CASC, PBOR, BC
To: AF POSTS EUR POSTS
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/1c0fdd5f-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009